

**Fact Sheet
January 2003**

**FORMER ALAMEDA
MANUFACTURED GAS
PLANT SITE**

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



PLEASE COMMENT ON PLAN TO CLEAN UP CHEMICALS IN SOIL

*DTSC is one of six
Boards and
Departments within
the California
Environmental
Protection Agency.
The Department's
mission is to restore,
protect and enhance
the environment,
to ensure public health,
environmental
quality and
economic vitality,
by regulating
hazardous waste,
conducting and
overseeing
cleanups, and
developing
and promoting
pollution prevention.*

State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency



As you may know from our February 2002 letter, our cleanup team found some chemical pollution in the soil at the former Alameda Manufactured Gas Plant site (site) located at 725 Channing Street in Los Angeles, at the southeast corner of 7th Street and Alameda Street. This 2.5 acre site of industrial property borders nearby pedestrian and street traffic and bus stops. There are no residences, churches, or hospitals within one quarter mile of the site. Para Los Ninos, a child daycare center is across the street from the site. Metropolitan High School is nearby and located approximately one quarter mile from the site. The site is currently occupied and used as a parking area for Greyhound buses. A chain-link fence encloses the entire site.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

January 27, 2003 - February 28, 2003

We invite you to provide us with your comments and questions about the cleanup plan. We will take public comments beginning January 27, 2003 and ending February 28, 2003. On the back of this Fact Sheet we provide information on who to write or email your public comments to, and where to find the technical reports that provide detailed information.

THIS FACT SHEET TELLS YOU:

- What we found
- How it got there
- That it is not a risk to public health
- Why and how we plan to clean it up
- How you can tell us what you think
- Who you can contact for more information

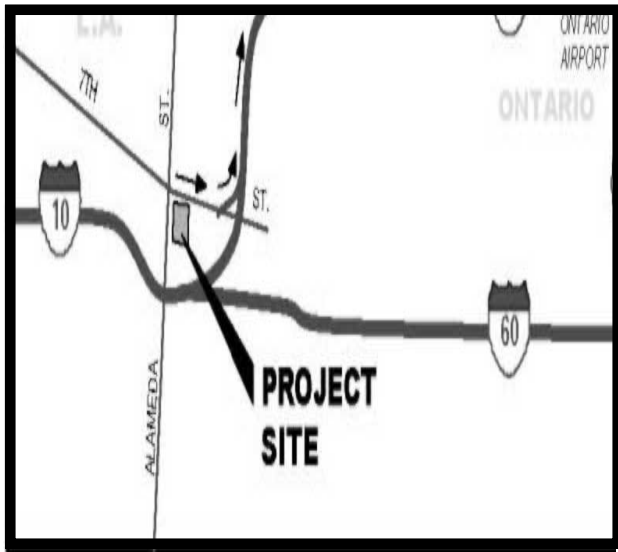
The cleanup team is made up of our agency, which is the Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the Southern California Gas Company (The Gas Company). The Gas Company is responsible for the chemicals found at the site and is also responsible for the cleanup. Our agency makes sure the cleanup work meets state and federal standards that will protect the public's health and the environment

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

CHEMICALS FOUND

The Gas Company tested the soil and found chemicals called PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons), TPHs (total petroleum hydrocarbons), metals and cyanide. A health risk study was performed to study the potential risks of the chemicals found. Results showed the PAHs are the most important to remove. Though TPHs, metals and cyanide were found, they are at such low levels that they do not impact public health or the environment. If necessary, additional soil would be removed until cleanup is successful to protect public health and the environment. PAHs come from burning fuels such as coal, charcoal, and diesel. If people are in direct contact with very high levels of these chemicals over a long time, they can cause health problems.

PAHs tend to stick to the soil and stay where they are. This means it is unlikely the PAHs have moved beyond the site. We do not believe the PAHs got into the groundwater below the site because the soil with PAHs are close to the surface (shallow) and are at a distance greater than 90 feet from groundwater.



NOT A RISK TO THE PUBLIC

The good news is the site is not a risk to the people who work there or to the people who live nearby. This is because the soil has been paved for over 30 years. The pavement has acted as a protective barrier between the chemicals and the public.

HOW THE PAHS GOT THERE

The PAHs came from “lampblack”, which is a black, powdery, grainy material, similar to soot. Lampblack was generated when the gas plant burned oils to produce gas for people to use in cooking, heating and lighting. The gas plant closed in 1906. The Greyhound Bus Company currently uses the area to park buses.

WHY WE NEED TO CLEAN IT UP

Right now, the soil is covered (paved) and the public is not exposed. But in the future, someone may want to build something new or use the site for a different purpose. We need to remove the PAHs to make it safe for these other uses.

HOW WE PLAN TO CLEAN IT UP

Any cleanup plan has to protect public health, have a reasonable cost, and be shared with the community. We think the best plan that meets these goals is to take out the pavement, dig up about the top three (3) feet of soil and haul both the pavement and soil away to a state approved treatment facility. This will be about 500 tons of soil, and will take about 21 truckloads. After we haul it away, we will bring in clean soil to fill the holes and repave the area. The cleanup will last about two (2) weeks. Although this is the cleanup we propose, we would very much like to hear your thoughts and comments (see page 3 for more information).

DEALING WITH NOISE, DUST, TRAFFIC

If the cleanup plan is approved as written, noise from the earth-moving equipment, and some traffic delays while trucks are driving to and from the site are expected. We will try to keep these problems to a minimum. Here are some of the actions we will take to minimize the impact:

- Limit all digging to just the paved area, where the highest levels of PAHs were found.
- Spray the soil with water when loading it onto the trucks to minimize dust.
- Cover the soil in the trucks leaving the site with plastic sheets to prevent dust.
- Brush the tires of the trucks from any soil before leaving the site.

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- Monitor the air at the site to make sure the amount of dust stays at a safe level.
 - Use plastic sheets to cover any piles of dug-up soil that may have to be left in place overnight.
 - Have a flagman on duty to direct truck traffic.

To make sure the workers are safe, they may wear protective clothing. Workers will take off their protective clothing on site. All protective clothing will be safely disposed.

WE NEED YOUR COMMENTS

Before we can begin the cleanup, we need to let you review our cleanup plan and tell us what you think. After we have received all public comments during the public comment period, we will evaluate your comments and make changes as necessary to the plan. If there are no major changes, cleanup could begin as soon as March 2003.

ALSO FOR REVIEW AND PUBLIC COMMENT: OUR PROPOSED DECISION ABOUT THE EFFECT OF THE CLEANUP

We looked at how the proposed cleanup might affect the residents, air, plants and animals in the area. We found that it would not have a negative effect. We describe our study and proposed decision in a "Draft Special Initial Study and Draft Negative Declaration", which is also available for public review and comment from January 27, 2003 through February 28, 2003.

HOW TO GIVE US YOUR COMMENTS

Please send your written public comments to Mr. Anthony Espinoza, Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 1011 N. Grandview Avenue, Glendale, California 91201-2205. You may also email your public comments to aespinoz@dtsc.ca.gov. All public comments must be postmarked or emailed by February 28, 2003.

WHERE TO FIND SITE DOCUMENTS (TECHNICAL REPORTS)

The cleanup plan is described in detail in the "Removal Action Work Plan for the former Alameda Manufactured Gas Plant Site". This document also describes how we looked at the possible health risks. All the documents about this site are at the Los Angeles Public Library, Science Technology Department LL2, 630 W. 5th Street, Los Angeles, California, 90071, (213) 228-7000. We also have site documents at our office, located at 1101 N. Grandview Avenue, Glendale, California, 91201-2205. If you plan to visit the Glendale office, please call Ms. Jone Barrio at (818) 551-2886 to make an appointment.

WHO TO CALL AT OUR AGENCY

Public involvement is encouraged by our agency. If you have any questions about the cleanup project or cleanup activities, please contact Mr. Anthony Espinoza, Project Manager, at (818) 551-2948, or Stacey Lear, Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5354. If you have media inquiries, please contact Jeanne Garcia, Public Information Officer at (818) 551-2176. For more information about the Department of Toxic Substances Control, please visit our website at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

NOTICE TO HEARING IMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS

TDD users can use the California Relay Service (1-888-877-5378) to reach DTSC Project Manager, Mr. Anthony Espinoza at (818) 551-2948.

PUBLIC COMMENT FORM AND MAILING COUPON

Former Alameda Manufactured Gas Plant Site Draft Cleanup Plan for Chemically Impacted Soil

You can use this form to send in your written public comments on the draft cleanup plan, draft Special Initial Study and draft Negative Declaration. You may also ask to be added to or deleted from the former Alameda Manufactured Gas Plant site mailing list. If you know of anyone or organizations that would like to be on the project mailing list, please use this form to add that information. Please address all mailings to Mr. Anthony Espinoza, Project Manager, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 1011 N. Grandview Avenue, Glendale, California, 91201-2205. You may also email this same information to aespinoz@dtsc.ca.gov.

Reminder: All written public comments on the draft cleanup plan must be postmarked or emailed by February 28, 2003.

NAME: _____

AGENCY OR ORGANIZATION (if applicable): _____

ADDRESS: _____

☐ Please add me to the site mailing list.

☐ Please delete me from the site mailing list.

Comments:

This image shows a full page of blank, lined paper. It features approximately 20 horizontal blue lines spaced evenly across the page, typical of notebook paper. The lines are thin and light blue, set against a plain white background. There is no handwriting or other markings on the page.



State of California
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Mr. Anthony Espinoza
Project Manager
1011 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, CA 91201-2205

**INSIDE: INFORMATION ON THE FORMER ALAMEDA MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT,
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**
